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## INFORMATION REPORT

**REFERENCE COPY**

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COUNTRY Indochina.

DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR. 2 June 1952

**SUBJECT** Discussions between Bao Dai and Nationalist Leaders  
Concerning the Composition of a New Cabinet

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Jean Letourneau has asked Bao Dai several times to remove Tran Van Huu. Letourneau wants Bao Dai himself to head the government but Bao Dai is seeking some other man.
2. Bao Dai asked Nguyen Huu Tri if he would head a government containing Nghiem Van Tri as Minister of National Defense, and Nguyen Van Tam as Minister of Interior, Security, and Information.
3. Tri asked for time to reflect. He stated that the primary question was not one of individuals but of basic principles to which the new government would be devoted.
4. Members of the Imperial Cabinet in Paris are eagerly backing Buu Loc for the presidency.<sup>1</sup>
5. Bao Dai also had a talk with Bishops Le Huu Tu and Pham Ngoc Chi, at which Chi expressed a desire to participate in a union of all nationalist elements. Bao Dai was delighted with this statement, but the meeting otherwise lacked any special significance.

1. [redacted] Buu Loc is handicapped by the enmity of Nguyen De.  
Bao Dai's attitude toward Buu Loc is not known.

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